



**LITTLE TRAVERSE BAY BANDS OF ODAWA INDIANS
7500 ODAWA CIRCLE, HARBOR SPRINGS, MI 49740**

Tribal Council Travel Report

Name: Belinda Bardwell

Date: 04-22-12

Training: Native Indian Gaming Association - 2012 San Diego

Activity Schedule - Native Indian Gaming Association - 2012 San Diego

My goal for attending this conference was to arm myself with the questions that need to be asked to insure our casino is running at optimum levels, as well as represent the Little Traverse Bay Band of Odawa Indians as a member of the organization. It is important that if we are to belong to this organization, then we must always be represented as a voting member.

Sunday evening I attended the opening reception that was held on the USS Midway. On Monday registered, checked in LTBB at the General Membership, and attended the workshop being offered that morning. I attended the Chairman's Leadership Award Luncheon, where we were able to meet up with Michael Garrow. Attendees were treated to a viewing of the trailer for the movie "Crooked Arrows." In the afternoon, I finished the afternoon in the General Membership meeting.

It was announced that Larry Echo-hawk has been offered a top job with the LDS, but has not officially resigned from his current position, it is unclear how the misinformation was let out. Nominations were made for the elected positions open, Treasury, Vice-Chair, and Secretary.

Workshop on Policies and Procedures

Speaker went through her power point presentation created to outline the steps needed in order to produce a policy and the needed procedures. A copy of her presentation has been brought back.

Tuesday morning I was able to have a meeting with Steve Kapparos, from Cottingham and Butler where he provided me with the presentation he had given to LTBB on the services they would be able to provide. I will be presenting that information to council verbally and written.

I attended the Annual Trade Show where I was able to meet some of our vendors and educate myself on the up and coming in games/slots.

In the afternoon/late evening I sat in the General Membership meeting as they went through the election process for officers and speeches.

In the evening I attended the Wendell Chino Humanitarian Award Banquet. Here the Quapaw Tribe was awarded the honor of receiving the prestigious award for the efforts and hard work after the Tornado that devastated their area. A short video was shown showcasing their efforts to fight back.

Wednesday, I sat in a presentation by PwC Accounting firm on Global Gaming Forecast till 2015. Her power point presentation followed the booklet that was being handed out. It tracks the trends in gaming and compares all the different worldwide gaming markets, upward and downward movement of each markets profits and projections into the year 2015 and illustrates the portion of the world's market is being held by each sector. No information was given on how and how much IGaming will affect the market. Reasons are that there are too many variables in IGaming when considering projections.

I headed to the Tradeshow again where I was able to meet and talk to Jayson Brave Heart and discuss some of the work he is doing in Indian Country. It was a pleasure to meet someone so passionate about his work.

In the afternoon, NIGA held a Congressional Tribal Leaders Internet Gaming Listening session. The panel consisted of 5 Representatives and a board member of NCAI. Tribal leaders were given the opportunity to address the panel and express their thoughts on the subject of IGaming. My overall feeling from the Tribal Leaders was that they are in favor of it becoming legal, but they all had concerns with the regulations of it...would IGRA need to be amended, who would regulate it, intra vs. interstate gambling. It was agreed upon the panel that the Barton Bill would not be up for vote any time before Lane Duck. However, we as Tribal Leaders and Representatives need to do all we can to educate others in power as 25% of house is freshman. There are too many questions concerning the Barton Bill that need to be addressed before being considered for passing. This was the last session of the 2012 NIGA. One of the

comments made during this hearing inferred that in the proposed bill, Indian Tribes would be excluded from IGaming/Poker.

I would like to thank Tribal Council for allowing me to attend this year's NIGA. I feel that I have met my goal as stated in the beginning by acquiring needed information that I can take to the Gaming Authority as well as council. I also attended and represented the tribe at the General Membership meeting throughout the conference. I was also able to do some networking with other Tribal Leaders and Native owned business as well as obtain new and creative ideas on how to keep our tribe moving into the future.

Councilor Belinda Bardwell